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2016 APR 14 PM 3:17



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MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)
Thursday – December 17, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
El Paso Museum of Art, Larry Francis Board Room

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	R. Katherine Brennand	X	
	Angel Cabrales		X
	Elvira Carrizal-Dukes	X	
	Estrella Escobar		X
	Kenneth Gorski	X	
	Teresa Hernandez	X	
	Ann F. Kruzich	X	
	Daniel Longoria	X	
	Steve Lujan	X	
	M. Erica Marin	X	
	Marina Monsisvais		X
	William Moody		X
	Analinda Moreno		X
	Isela Ocegueda	X	
	Elia Perez	X	
	Carina Ramirez		X
	Ida Mae Steadman		X

Consecutive absences: none

Others present: Tracey Jerome, Misty Monteros, Ben Fyffe, Patricia Dalbin, Aidee Guevara and Patrick Shaw Cable

2. **Call for Public Comment.** None

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for November 19, 2015.** Chair began by allowing members time to review the minutes of the last meeting before requesting a motion to approve. Teresa Hernandez so moved; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Discussion and Action on Selection of a Board Liaison to the Public Art Committee.** Chair notified members that a liaison to the PAC had been elected at the previous meeting, but due to scheduling conflicts, that person would not be able to continue in that capacity and a new liaison would need to be elected. Patricia Dalbin clarified that PAC meetings occur every second Tuesday at 330pm in the MCAD Board Room and explained the commitment required as a liaison. General discussion followed. Isela Ocegueda self-nominated and Chair requested a motion to accept. Elvira Carrizal-Dukes so moved; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

5. **Discussion and Action on Reappointment of Daniela Quesada Rivas to the Public Art Committee.** Patricia Dalbin noted that Ms. Rivas has completed her first term and has expressed interest in continuing for a second term. She is a professor at Texas Tech University, she is very involved in the arts, practices architecture and is an asset to the PAC. General discussion followed, and Chair requested a motion to approve her appointment. Ann Kruzich so moved; Isela Ocegueda seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion and Action on Reappointment of Gregory McNicol to the Public Art Committee. Patricia Dalbin noted that Mr. McNicol has also completed his first term and has expressed interest in continuing for a second term. He works on all of the construction projects at UTEP with a background in architecture and construction. General discussion followed. Teresa Hernandez moved to approve; Katherine Brennand seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and Action on Approval of the 2016 Public Art Plan for the City of El Paso. Chair requested that item 7 be moved to the forefront of the agenda. Patricia Dalbin began by introducing herself and Aidee Guevara to members, noting they were bringing forward the 2016 Public Art Plan for approval before taking it to City Council on January 12th. Pat noted it was the 10th year for the program and 50 projects have been completed to date, the Artist Purchase Program was established and acquired 87 pieces of work, the Allied Artist Program was established and 10 local artists have been commissioned, the Program has worked with 105 artists to date and 84 local businesses have been impacted by the Public Art Program. Pat went on to discuss the purpose of the program, recently completed projects, projects in progress and new projects, to include planned locations and proposed budgets. Images of completed projects and projects in progress were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. General discussion followed, and Chair requested a motion to approve. Katherine Brennand so moved; Steve Lujan seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

8. Museum Reports. Ben Fyffe began by informing members that Dr. Julia Bussinger has taken another opportunity, and he will serve as Interim Director for both the History and Archaeology museums as well as retaining his normal duties. He began with History, and noted that within the last two weeks, there has been work done to get an exhibition schedule mapped out, with a push to move to 2-3 year planning period for exhibitions to allow for better preparation, collaboration and fundraising. The length of each exhibition is also being expanded from one month to 3-4 months in closer alignment to field standards, allowing the museum to have better quality shows and more time to celebrate them. Programming tied to exhibitions no longer on view is being eliminated and the focus is on quality programs that support only current exhibitions or our core mission. Staff is exploring the feasibility of moving one or both of the professionally designed and fabricated exhibitions from the upstairs galleries to the downstairs galleries to augment the visitor experience, as visitors walk in and oftentimes aren't seeing anything that entices them to go upstairs. A plan to begin docent recruitment is in the works, as docent numbers have dwindled to zero over the last year and a half; there have been only 5 school tours for the entire academic year; the fundraising benchmark for development is being doubled to allow for work on higher quality programming. The Foundation Board, who had not met since 2013, is being reactivated; staff is in the middle of negotiations for a significant gift, and it will have to go through the board. Moving forward with conservation of several ladies' fans, we have a beautiful collection of 19th and early 20th century ladies' fans; there was a catalogue and exhibition done on this 2-3 years ago. Ben opened the floor for questions, and general discussion followed.

Ben continued with the Archaeology Museum, noting that they are beginning docent recruitment as a means to increase and diversify the program to better reflect different parts of the community and engage with more audiences. Research is being done on how the program was previously run, in terms of training and recruitment, and how to move forward with that. The member newsletter is being revamped and work on museum trails is ongoing, but 'caution' tape has been removed. Tracey Jerome shared some news, explaining that she had received a briefing from the Director of the Parks Department. She went on to say that in the last legislative session, there were funds approved for a visitor center to be established here and although the funds will not be made available until next year, there is a lot of work happening with the state, and because of their reach, there is a lot of optimism about the collaborative efforts we will be able to achieve in the longer term for the sustainability of that site. General discussion followed.

Patrick Shaw Cable began the Art Museum report, briefly discussing the retablo exhibit, *Cristos, Virgenes y Santos: Highlights from the Hamilton Collection*, which just opened and will be up for several months in the Roderick Gallery. Reaccreditation site visits took place last week as part of the reaccreditation process from the American Alliance of Museums and interviews for Museum School Coordinator are underway. Patrick briefly discussed upcoming exhibitions, *Desert Triangle Print Carpeta* and *Knot: The Art of Sebastian*, a comprehensive sculpture exhibition. There will be a Young Associates meet and greet with the local artists of the Biennial in late January, the Hal Marcus show is up until late January and he will give a lecture on January 14th and Spark Saturdays will continue. Patrick concluded his report and opened the floor for questions; general discussion followed.

9. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Accessions. Patrick Shaw Cable noted that the pieces were recently accepted by the Accessions Committee and are now brought forward for MCAAB approval. This year, the Biennial purchase prize, which is typically given to one American artist and one Mexican artist to enter the collection, was collapsed with the Members' Choice. At the November Members' Choice event, 4 Americans and 4 Mexicans were vetted and offered, and members were required to pick one American and one Mexican. Caludio Dicochea won for the Americans with his acrylic, graphite, charcoal and transfer on wood, titled *de Virgen Morena/from Dark Virgin*. The Mexican artist, David Garza, won with his acrylic, enamel on transparent Plexiglas, titled *Broken Landscape*. Additionally, every year the Robert U. and Mabel O. Lipscomb Foundation Endowment provides \$30,000 for the purchase of art. Pieces for purchase were *Selfie* by Yasadori Sanchez Zavala, *Somos* by Nabil Gonzalez, *El Norte* by Rebecca Mendez and *Ferni* by Paola Rascon Tello.

Chair requested a motion to accept; Isela Ocegueda so moved; Steve Lujan seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

10. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of History Outgoing Loan Request. Ben Fyffe notified members of a request to borrow a serape from the El Paso Museum of History's collection to the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Museum in Las Cruces. The serape is one of four in the collection that was originally owned by Percival Henderson, who moved to El Paso to run Smeltertown. He passed away in 1918 and left a number of items to The El Paso Pioneers; those items ended up in the care of The El Paso County Historical Association and then were given to the Museum of History. Image was provided for review via a PowerPoint slide. Ben noted the item will be on exhibition from March through June of 2017 before requesting a motion to approve. Katherine Brennand so moved; Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

11. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Teresa Hernandez so moved; Daniel Longoria seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for February 18, 2016.

Approved for content by:
Ken Gorski, Chair

Respectfully submitted by:
Misty Monteros, Administrative Assistant
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

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